

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

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1. A method for processing an image signal,
in which method input image information for an input
image is converted into an image forming controlling
signal for an image forming apparatus, said method
10 comprising the step of:

(a) controlling a conversion from said input
image information into said image forming controlling
signal based on a type of a drawing object for the input
image and background information for a background where
15 the drawing object is formed.

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2. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein
said background information indicates an average of
background colors in an area where said drawing object
is formed.

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3. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein
said background information indicates a value based on
5 an appearance frequency, as a reference, of a single
color forming image in an area where said drawing object
is formed.

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4. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein
when said image information for said drawing object
indicates black or white, said conversion to the image
15 forming controlling signal based on said background
information is not controlled.

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5. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein
when a color difference between color information for
said drawing object and background information in an
area where said drawing object is formed is smaller than
25 a predetermined color difference, said conversion into

the image forming controlling signal based on said background information is controlled.

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6. The method as claimed in claim 5, wherein said predetermined color difference is defined based on a character type, a character size, a character style, a character color, a line type, a line thickness and a part of or the entire line color.

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7. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said input image is a color image and said image forming apparatus is a color image forming apparatus, and said step (a) comprises the step of (b) correcting a color, in said input image, located outside of a color reproduction range of said color image forming apparatus to another color located inside of the color reproduction range.

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8. The method as claimed in claim 7, wherein
said step (b) controls a direction to compress and map a
5 color, in said input image, located outside of said
color reproduction range to another color located inside
of said color reproduction ranges based on the type of
the drawing object for said input image and the
background information where said drawing object is
10 formed.

9. The method as claimed in claim 7, wherein
said step (b) controls the direction to compress and map
the color within a range from a direction maintaining a
hue and a brightness to another direction maintaining a
saturation.

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10. The method as claimed in claim 8, wherein
25 said background information indicates an average of the

background colors in an area where said drawing object
is formed.

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11. An apparatus for processing an image
signal, in which apparatus input image information for
an input image is converted into an image forming
10 controlling signal for an image forming apparatus, said
apparatus comprising:

an object type determining part determining a
type of a drawing object for an input image;

a background color information extracting part
15 extracting background information for a background where
said drawing object is formed; and

a controlling part controlling a conversion
from said input image information into said image
forming controlling signal based on the type of the
20 drawing object and the background information.

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12. The apparatus as claimed in claim 11,

wherein:

said input image is a color image and said image forming apparatus is a color image forming apparatus; and

5 said controlling part comprises a color correcting part correcting a color, in said input image, located outside of a color reproduction range of said color image forming apparatus to another color located inside of the color reproduction range.

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13. The apparatus as claimed in claim 12, wherein said color correcting part controls a direction
15 to compress and map a color, in said input image, located outside of said color reproduction range to another color located inside of said color reproduction range based on the type of the drawing object for said input image and the background information where said
20 drawing object is formed.

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14. A computer-readable recording medium

recorded with a program for causing a computer to
process an image signal, in which computer input image
information for an input image is converted into an
image forming controlling signal for an image forming
5 apparatus, said program comprising the codes of:

(a) determining a type of a drawing object for
said input image;

(b) extracting background information for a
background where said drawing object is formed; and

10 (c) controlling a conversion from said input
image information into said image forming controlling
signal based on the type of the drawing object and the
background information.

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information for an input image is converted into an
image forming controlling signal for an image forming
apparatus, said program comprising the codes of:

(a) determining a type of a drawing object for
25 said input image;

(b) extracting background information for a background where said drawing object is formed; and

(c) controlling a direction to compress and map a color, in said input image, located outside of
5 said color reproduction range to another color located inside of said color reproduction ranges based on the type of the drawing object and the background information.